REMARKS

This application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated November 29, 2004. Claims 1-24 are presented for examination, of which Claims 1, 12, 13, and 23 are in independent form. Claims 1-22 have been amended to define still more clearly what Applicants regard as their invention. Claims 23 and 24 have been added to provide Applicants with a more complete scope of protection. Favorable reconsideration is requested.

Claim 18 was objected to because of the informality noted at page 2 of the Office Action.

Claim 18 has been amended to delete, among other things, the phrase at issue. It is believed that the objection to Claim 18 has been remedied, and its withdrawal is therefore respectfully requested.

Claims 1-4, 7-12, and 17-22 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,392,132 (*Yamamoto et al.*); and Claims 5, 6, and 13-16 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Yamamoto et al.* in view of U.S. Patent 6,600,726 (*Nevo et al.*).

As shown above, Applicants have amended independent Claims 1, 12, and 13 in terms that more clearly define what they regard as their invention. Applicants submit that these amended independent claims and new independent Claim 23, together with the remaining claims dependent thereon, are patentably distinct from the cited prior art for at least the following reasons.

The aspect of the present invention set forth in Claim 1 is a communication system having an image input apparatus and an image formation apparatus for communicating with the image input apparatus. The system includes a wireless communication device which

communicates between the image formation apparatus and the image input apparatus via a wireless line. The wireless communication device has a plurality of communication modes. The system also includes a detection device which detects a predetermined operation by a user for instructing the image formation apparatus to perform a predetermined process on an image input by the image input apparatus, and a control device changing modes of the wireless communication device in accordance with a detection result by the detection device, and controlling transmission of the image input by the image input apparatus in the changed mode to the image formation apparatus.

Among other notable features of Claim 1 are changing the mode of the wireless communication device in accordance with a detection result by the detection device and controlling transmission of the image input by the image input apparatus in the changed mode to the image formation apparatus, where a detection device detects a predetermined operation by a user for instructing the image formation apparatus to perform a predetermined process on an image input by the image input apparatus.

Yamamoto et al. relates to an image input system for a facsimile machine having a host section and a scanner section provided separately from the host machine, in which the scanner section reads image data and transmits it to the host section, and the host section executes a facsimile communication. *Yamamoto et al.* discusses wirelessly transmitting an image to a host device from a scanner, and starting or halting the transmission of the image by the scanner in accordance with a determination of the amount of available memory between the host device and the scanner.

However, nothing has been found in *Yamamoto et al.* that would teach or suggest changing the mode of the wireless communication device in accordance with a detection result

by the detection device and controlling transmission of the image input by the image input apparatus in the changed mode to the image formation apparatus, a detection device detects a predetermined operation by a user for instructing the image formation apparatus to perform a predetermined process on an image input by the image input apparatus, as recited in Claim 1.

For at least the above reason, Applicants submit that Claim 1 is clearly patentable over *Yamamoto et al.*

Independent Claim 12 is a method claim corresponding to system Claim 1, and is believed to be patentable over *Yamamoto et al.* for at least the same reasons as discussed above in connection with Claim 1.

The rejection of independent Claim 13 over *Yamamoto et al.* and *Nevo et al.* will now be addressed.

Claim 13 is an apparatus claim corresponding to Claim 1, and is believed to be patentable over *Yamamoto et al.* for the same reasons as is Claim 1.

The Office Action cites *Nevo et al.* as disclosing making a transition to a low power consumption connection state not requiring an initial connection procedure, at a time of re-establishing the wireless link. *Nevo et al.* relates to concurrent wireless communication with multiple communication partners of different wireless communication protocols. *Nevo et al.* discusses preventing interference between a plurality of communication protocols in a wireless communication device which is able to communicate using the plurality of communication protocols.

However, nothing has been found in *Nevo et al.* that would teach or suggest the features of Claim 13, and in particular changing the mode of the wireless communication device in accordance with a detection result by the detection device and transmitting the image input by

the image input apparatus in the changed mode to the image formation apparatus, where a detection device detects a predetermined operation by a user for instructing the image formation apparatus to perform a predetermined process on an image input by the image input apparatus, as recited in Claim 13.

Applicants therefore submit that a combination of *Yamamoto et al.* and *Nevo et al.*, assuming such combination would even be permissible, also would fail to teach or suggest at least the foregoing-emphasized features of Claim 13.

Accordingly, Applicants submit that Claim 13 is patentable over *Yamamoto et al.* and *Nevo et al.*, whether considered separately or in combination

The aspect of the present invention set forth in Claim 23 is a method of controlling an image input apparatus capable of communicating with an image formation apparatus by a wireless method having a plurality of communication modes. The method includes detecting a predetermined operation by a user for instructing the image formation apparatus to perform a predetermined process to an image input by the image input apparatus, and changing a mode of the wireless method in accordance with detection in the predetermined operation. The method also includes transmitting the image input by the image input apparatus in the changed mode to the image formation apparatus.

For reasons similar to those discussed above in connection with Claim 13, nothing has been found in *Yamamoto et al.* and *Nevo et al.* that would teach or suggest detecting a predetermined operation by a user for instructing the image formation apparatus to perform a predetermined process to an image input by the image input apparatus, and changing a mode of the wireless method in accordance with detection in the predetermined operation, as recited in Claim 23.

Applicants therefore submit that a combination of *Yamamoto et al.* and *Nevo et al.*, assuming such combination would even be permissible, also would fail to teach or suggest at least those features of Claim 23.

Accordingly, Applicants submit that Claim 23 is patentable over *Yamamoto et al.* and *Nevo et al.*, whether considered separately or in combination.

The other claims in this application are each dependent from one or another of the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual consideration or reconsideration, as the case may be, of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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